

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LENDING 01718 121437Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 SS-15
/048 W

-----032373 121615Z /75

R 121429Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4415
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L L E N I N G R A D 0 1 7 1 8

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, UR
SUBJ: LENINGRAD SMUGGLERS' TRIALS OVER

REF: STATE 052681, B. LENINGRAD 691, C. LENINGRAD 303,
D. LENINGRAD 1091

1. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM A JEWISH REFUSENIK LEADER HERE WHO HAS VERY GOOD CONTACTS THROUGHOUT REFUSENIK COMMUNITY THAT LENINGRAD ART SMUGGLING TRIALS HAVE ENDED AND THE ACCUSED HAVE BEEN FOUND GUILTY AND SENTENCED. THE TRIALS REPORTEDLY INVOLVED THE SMUGGLING OF ICONS AND PAINTINGS OF SEVENTEENTH CENTURY DUTCH PAINTERS (REFTEL C).

2. THE LEADER OF THIS RING, GENYA UTKINA REPORTEDLY RECEIVED NINE YEARS, ONE SHORT OF THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE UNDER THE LAW AGAINST WHICH SHE WAS CHARGED. BORIS BELOSTOTSKIY RECEIVED EIGHT YEARS AND YEVSEY BRAVIY GOT SIX. TWO OTHER PERSONS FROM MOSCOW ALSO WERE SENTENCED, BUT OUR SOURCE DID NOT KNOW THEIR NAMES OR TERMS.

3. IN A SEPARATE TRIAL THE TWO LENINGRAD CUSTOMS INSPECTORS, "FROM SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH" WHO REPORTEDLY WERE IN ON THE SMUGGLING OPERATION, (REFTEL A) GOT ELEVEN AND TWELVE YEARS. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, THEIR UNUSUALLY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LENDING 01718 121437Z

STIFF SENTENCES WERE DESIGNED "TO MAKE EXAMPLES OF THEM". THEY APPARENTLY WERE TRIED AND SENTENCED UNDER A SEPARATE CHARGE--PROBABLY SOMETHING CONNECTED WITH ABUSE OF OFFICE--SINCE THEIR SENTENCES EXCEEDED THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE (10 YEARS) UNDER THE ARTICLE WITH WHICH THE OTHERS WERE CHARGED.

4. COMMENT: BELOSTOTSKIY AND BRAVIY ARE REFUSENIKS AND OUR REFUSENIK SOURCE FEARED THAT THE CASE MIGHT BE USED TO SMEAR REFUSENIKS IN GENERAL. THE LOCAL LENINGRAD AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT YET CHOSEN TO GIVE ANY PUBLIC EXPOSURE TO THIS CASE, BUT IT IS QUITE COMMON TO PLAY UP SUCH CASES FOR THEIR "EDUCATIONAL VALUE" AND WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED TO SEE SOME PUBLICITY. WE WILL REPORT ANY MEDIA HANDLING WE SHOULD SEE. BUCHANAN

DISSIMINATION COORDINATED WITH SS/O PER MR. SCOTT.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SMUGGLING, TRIALS, COURT DECISIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LENING01718
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780245-0331
Format: TEL
From: LENINGRAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780670/aaaacikd.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9bc8568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 52681, 78 LENINGRAD 691, 78 LENINGRAD 303, 78 LENINGRAD 1091
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2395689
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LENINGRAD SMUGGLERS' TRIALS OVER
TAGS: PINT, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9bc8568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014